

financial assistance for students who are Federal Pell Grant recipients.

The McNair Program, named in honor of engineer, scientist, and Challenger astronaut Robert E. McNair, serves a smaller student population of 23 each year. The goal of this program is to increase the number of doctoral candidates from underrepresented backgrounds. This program prepares undergraduate students for the world of vigorous research that doctoral studies require. Therefore, not only does Morehouse work closely with these students during their undergraduate years, but it also tracks the students' progress until successful completion of higher education degrees.

One of the major advantages of these programs is the mentoring the participants receive. Here they are off in college, many are the first to do so in their families, and they get the chance to receive guidance and assistance from professionals who want them to succeed. What more could a student ask for?

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the good work the professionals at Morehouse SSS and McNair Programs do. Among them are Dr. Ruby Bird, Malcolm Williams, and Michael Maxwell. I also want to congratulate all the Men of Morehouse that will become Morehouse Men on May 14th, 2006, with special acknowledgement of those who took advantage of the assets Morehouse TRIO Programs have to offer.

**HONORING THE 2006 STATE CHAMPION BOLINGBROOK HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM**

**HON. JUDY BIGGERT**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2006*

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to congratulate the Bolingbrook High School Girls' Varsity Basketball Team on capturing the 2006 Illinois Class AA Girls' Basketball State Championship.

On March 4, 2006, the Bolingbrook Raiders beat the Althoff High School Crusaders 45–34 in the state championship game. Not only did this give the Bolingbrook Girls' Varsity Basketball team its first state championship, but it provided Bolingbrook High School with its first ever state championship in any sport.

It's not often that Congress passes a law that makes a big difference in the lives of young people—especially in the lives of young girls. But that's exactly what happened in 1972, when Title IX was enacted, allowing girls and young women to participate in sports just like the boys and young men.

When many of my colleagues and I were in high school, girls were only allowed to play half court basketball. Why did they only let us play on half of the court? Well, they thought we were too weak and delicate and that running across the full court might exhaust us or affect our health.

As they say, we've come a long way, and the Bolingbrook High School Girls' Varsity Basketball Team is a great example of that. Not only are they excellent basketball players, but I'm sure that they could teach many young men a thing or two about the sport.

Today, our hats are off to the Bolingbrook Raiders for their great athleticism, team spirit,

hard work, dedication, and the example they set for girls and women everywhere.

Once again, congratulations to girls of the Bolingbrook High School Varsity Basketball Team on winning the Illinois state championship. We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

**KATHERINE OSENBACH**

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2006*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Katherine Osenbach for being inducted into the Da Vinci Discovery Center of Science and Technology's Hall of Fame.

The Da Vinci Discovery Center of Science and Technology honors outstanding teachers and high school students who excel in science and technology. This year, Katherine Osenbach of Allentown Central Catholic High School will receive this honor and recognition during the May 16, 2006 awards ceremony.

A senior in high school, Katherine, has already decided to pursue a career as a scientific researcher in the fields of biology and physics. She is well on her way to achieving her goal. She has participated in such events as the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science and in numerous independent research projects, including one titled "Does Mozart Motivate the Mind?" She has also acquired hands-on experience and completed such tasks as helping a veterinarian extract a horse's tooth and collecting samples for local water sources. Additionally, Katherine has participated in the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine in Boston and worked on an atomic fusion research project at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Katherine does not only excel in science, but she is also an accomplished musician, a recipient of the Girl Scout Gold Award, a National Merit Scholarship semi-finalist, and vice president of her school's National Honor Society chapter. She will be attending the University of Scranton in the fall and will pursue a degree in biology.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Katherine Osenbach of Allentown Central Catholic High School as she is inducted into the Da Vinci Discovery Center of Science and Technology's Hall of Fame.

**H.R. 4681, THE PALESTINIAN ANTI-TERRORISM ACT OF 2006**

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 10, 2006*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, it is not very often that JIM McDERMOTT rises to support this President, but that is precisely what I am doing now. The President does not want his hands tied by H.R. 4681. I completely agree. It was taken off the calendar today, and it ought to stay off the calendar.

H.R. 4681, the Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act of 2006, will not make Israel safer, will not meet the urgent humanitarian needs of the Palestinian people, and will not give our diplomats the tools they need to help find a path to peace in the Mideast.

For all of these reasons, I oppose it, and I urge my colleagues to reconsider. I believe in diplomacy as a means to correct injustice around the world. I believe gifted diplomats can accomplish as much with words and deeds as the military can with guns and soldiers.

There is no question that the United States must take all appropriate steps to ensure that terrorists like Hamas are denied access to our financial aid. Hamas is responsible for the deaths of hundreds of innocent Israelis before coming to power.

Since then, they have neither renounced violence nor recognized Israel. This is unacceptable.

By all means, we must deny Hamas dollars that would buy hatred, but we must remember that Hamas and the Palestinian people are not one and the same.

Even as we deny any and all assistance to Hamas, we must not hurt those Palestinians who are working for peace. If we fail to support them, I have no doubt that Israel will pay the ultimate price: more instability in the West Bank and Gaza, more desperation, and more terrorism.

America's leadership is on the line in the Middle East, and more instability is something we need to avoid. We still have 130,000 American soldiers in harm's way in Iraq; we can't afford to make any more poor choices related to that region. But, that's what we will do if we pass this bill.

It doesn't make sense for the United States to limit political and economic aid to moderates, like Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas.

He and others have met our requirements by recognizing Israel, renouncing violence and terrorism against Israel, and accepting all previously signed Israeli-Palestinian agreements. What happens if we turn our back on leaders trying to heal a millennium of hate?

And what can we expect if we turn our backs on the real and growing humanitarian needs of the Palestinian people? It doesn't make sense to put restrictions on funding the NGOs that provide the Palestinian people with hospitals and schools.

As a medical doctor, I am gravely concerned about the fate of millions of innocent Palestinians who rely on international aid for food, health care, and for developing their economy and businesses.

Recent news reports say that international sanctions are preventing hospitals in Gaza from providing dialysis machines for patients, and they may not be able to supply immunizations to children.

The World Health Organization sees a "rapid decline of the public health system . . . towards a possible collapse." This bill will only make the already dire situation even worse. As a doctor I took an oath to heal. As a nation, we took an oath to lead.

Allowing innocent Palestinians to go hungry, while denying them medical treatment cannot possibly correct injustice, or lead to peace.

Passing this bill will be seen as anti-Palestinian, and the resulting chaos and animosity can only threaten the relative calm that Israel has seen in recent months.

Many of the Israeli leaders I've spoken to, think this bill goes too far by punishing all Palestinians, not just Hamas. They understand that a radicalized population will show more support for Hamas, not less.